# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2548
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2015
Visually Impaired Children
Kamaraaj Dr. K.

**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) the total number of visually impaired children and the details of special schools for them in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the quantum of funds allocated/ utilised for the education of such children in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) & (b) As per Census 2011 there are 11,33,472 children with visual impairment in the age group of 5-19 years. The details of special Schools run by the State Governments are not centrally maintained. However, this Ministry is implementing Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) under which grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) for their projects including special schools for visually impaired aimed at enabling persons with disabilities to reach and maintain their optimal, physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional levels. A Statement indicating State/UT wise number of special schools for visually impaired, admissible financial assistance sanctioned during last three years and the current year is at Annexure-I.

In addition, the Ministry of Human Resource and Development is implementing Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) as main programme for universalising elementary education for all children from 6-14 years of age. SSA provides Rs. 3000/- per child per annum. The major interventions under SSA for the education of children with special needs (CWSN) are identification, assessment, provision of free aids and appliances, teacher training, engagement of resource persons exclusively for CWSN, support services and barrier free access. The quantum of funds allocated/ utilised for inclusive education for children with special needs in the country during the last three years and the current year, State-wise under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is at Annexure-II.

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